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3 September 2010



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. Parents helping out with the abseiling day.
.. Shanlyn Webb, Jenny Wiegiersma and Kelly Prescott who have been helping this week to reinforce the spines of SRA readers - your efforts (along with all our parent helpers) have been very much appreciated.

People of the week

.. Caleb who won the Placemakers kitchen colouring in competition. Congratulations!
.. Flynn whose manners were just awesome on visits to the office this week.
.. James who was a great help to Mr Delemare this week.
.. Mr Schuster, our intrepid director, who continues to provide exemplary leadership in the build up to our week 9 School Production .. calm and collected and a wealth of good advice.
.. Mrs Witte who has put in many hours of extra work in preparation for next week's camp (and also our Room 9 camp parents).

How important is breakfast?

.. in short, very important. Many nutritionists will say that the first meal of the day is the most important meal and that it should be the most substantial of all of the meals - this is the opportunity for kids to really fuel up for the day to follow. So ... even though breakfast is eaten at one of the busiest times of the day, please take the time to ensure children eat a full and wholesome breakfast. Some children have been having their lunch before school and at morning tea, with consequential flagging energy by the end of the day.
Also a few children (certainly not the majority) might need a top up to their lunches. Please also check to see they have their drink bottle with them (water better than cordial or fruit juice). For the vast majority of parents our advice is simply keep up the good work!

Breakfast ideas

Have you thought of cooking whole grains and dried fruit (with part fruit juice / water) overnight in a crock pot - much better for you than pre-packaged and sugared cereals? Maybe give it a go.
How about letting the office know of any other nutritional and time saving breakfast ideas so we can share these with other parents.

Good luck and safe travels

.. to Room 9 off on camp next week.

think... SOLD!

think yellow,
think...

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New Virtue - DILIGENCE

Last week we announced that our virtue for the second half of this term is DILIGENCE. If you have not already done so ..

- .. please read over the support material and discuss it with your child(ren)
- .. re-visit this material from time to time
- .. explain how diligence has helped you to meet some challenge
- .. help your child(ren) find some opportunities to practise this virtue
- .. advise us of any successes so we can celebrate these through the newsletter.

Kids House Lit Quiz

The Kids House Lit Quiz was held this week with the following results:

1 st	Gold House	Abbi, Shannon, William, Mona-Lisa
2 nd	Blue House	Reumah, Angus, Isaac
3 rd	Gold House	Jemimah, Marina, Amber

This takes the House Point Competition to:

1 st :	Gold
2 nd	Blue
3 rd	Red
4 th	Green

Well Done Gold!

Senior School Request

Hip Hooray we have a chicken coop!!

A BIG thank you to Steve Martin for building us a chicken coop.

If anybody would possibly donate some chicken food for the school chickens we would be very grateful. Also if anybody has some egg cartons they could donate we would really appreciate it as the school will sell the eggs that the chickens lay.

If you could donate any of these things please contact Mrs Williams in Room 10.

Coming up

7-9 September	Innovation class camp
13 September	K.H.S. enrolment interviews (at Matarau School)
13-15 September	School production
17 September	Rippa Rugby - Tournament 2
22 September	Senior Abseiling Day - A.H. Reed Park
22 September	Northland Cross Country Championship
24 September	Final day of term
11 October	First day of term 4
22 October	Calf Club Day

Senior Abseiling Day .. 22.9

Consents were issued several weeks ago. Please ensure permission slips are returned (with money) as soon as possible. Thanks, again, to those able to provide transport. Please note that parents providing transport are also required to pay the fee for this day but will be reimbursed for petrol after the event. Any questions please to Mr D.

Room 9 Camp (7-10 September)

If you have not already done so please arrange fee payment at your earliest opportunity. **If wanting to discuss alternative payment arrangements please drop by to see Mr Trehwella some time next week.** Mrs Witte is more than happy to answer any questions you might have in the build up to camp.

Scholastic Books

Issue 6 went home this week. All orders and money due back to the school office by 10/08/10.

Healthier Option Stainless Steel Drink Bottles

A great fundraising opportunity for the school has arisen. For every 750ml stainless steel drink bottle purchased @ \$27.95 the school receives \$9. For every 500ml stainless steel drink bottle purchased @ \$23.95 the school receives \$8.

For those concerned about their health and our planet, the attached brochure will explain the many benefits. All orders to be returned to the school office no later than 6 September 2010. Note these have a lifetime guarantee and we may even engrave them for you. A really good investment.

Sample bottle available for viewing at the office.

Wanted - Helpers

This year's Trivia Night is to be held on 30th October. We are organising sponsorship/prizes for this big fundraiser and any assistance would be gratefully accepted. If you are in a position to help please contact Cherrie Parker on 437 1327.

Calf Club Day - 22nd October 2009

You need to start thinking now if your child/ren want to rear calves and lambs. Calves must be born after 1st July 2008. Calves are judged on rearing and leading. Lambs are judged on rearing, leading & calling. For those who bring pets, a booklet will be handed out prior to the September school holidays & needs to be completed by 15 October. No dogs are allowed to be entered. If you have any queries about calves please call Steve Martin on 433 5061, or about lambs to Alison Faithfull on 433 5557. There will be further updates closer to the end of term. To assist you with selection, care and training of your pet, please check out the following website www.calfclub.co.nz

Home Gardens

Home garden booklets were distributed today. Children growing from seeds will need to plant seeds at some stage soon (possibly in trays prior to transferring to their gardens). Composts can also be under way. Children in the programme for the first time have been asked to think about a suitable location for their garden .. they should think sunshine, shelter and proximity to water. Children are asked to plant a minimum 6 different vegetables but can also include flowers in their gardens. We will meet periodically at school to share and encourage each other. Don't hesitate to give Kevin a call (or drop by) with any questions. So .. first tasks .. locate garden .. get compost going .. soak and plant seeds (see first 5 pages of the garden resource booklet - **please refer to this booklet from time to time maybe even as a substitute for reading homework with the consent of the classroom teacher**)

Out of zone enrolments

For more information on the balloting process, and for a zone description, please visit our website www.matarau.school.nz. Application forms available from the school office.

Homestays for international students

Thanks to those parents who expressed interest some months back in home hosting international students. Please don't think we have forgotten you. We are currently negotiating with agents for student placements for next year and so you will hear back from us at some time soon. We realise that some of you were simply "scoping possibilities" and so you will get a chance to hear more details and ask questions.

Private Tutoring

.. in Mathematics and English with a primary and secondary experienced teacher. If interested phone Anita Magee on 4380457.

Fund Raiser for Hatch Cup Hockey

James, Scott and Jonathan are selling sheep poo to fundraise for the Hatch Cup Hockey tournament. The bags are \$10 each. For orders please phone James at 4350373.

Community Notices

For Rent - 2 bedroom flat (huge bedrooms) plus large storage room, new kitchen, carpeted, heat pump, fenced garden. Call Hana for Trade Me #. Available soon. 4350230 or 274352786.

For Sale - Room 5 School Class Photo, laminated and named (ordered by accident) \$10. Phone Hana 4350230.

For Sale - Lambs \$30 each. Phone Murray or Sue Ph 4322475.

Scottish Fiddle - If you would like to learn Scottish Fiddle ph Grace on 4335525 or 0211744244.

Taekwon-Do Classes - Tuesday and Thursday nights, Ruatangata Hall. All ages 6.00pm - 8.00pm. New classes for 5yr to 8yr and 9yr to 13yr. Start date pending interest. Phone Karl or Catherine on 4335618

Whakapara Pony Club - If you are interested in horses then come along to our Opening Rally and find out all about Pony Club, Saturday 4th Sept, 12.30-3.00 Whakapara Pony Club Grounds, Hikurangi. All enquiries to Fiona Harkness 4337101 or Karen Frost 4334750.

Zumba

Please note that there will be no Zumba classes on 14 September due to the School Production.

Alcohol and school camps

With the Room 9 camp approaching we would like to gently remind parents that alcohol is not permitted on school camps - although this has long been school policy, it is now also a requirement under the newly released Ministry Guidelines for Education Outside the Classroom. The safety and well being of children is our overwhelmingly predominant obligation on camp and we need all hands on deck for this.

School Production

Staff and students have been working incredibly hard to ensure that this year's school production will be one of our best ever. We hope that you will spread the word among neighbours, friends and extended family that performances will be held as follows .. Monday 13 September 7:00 PM, Tuesday 14 September 1:00 to 2:30 PM and that evening 7:00 PM and Wednesday 15 September 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

Tickets remain on sale from the office.

Exemption from school

The Ministry of Education requires that we monitor and report on all absences (kept now on an off-site database) and that we encourage parents to plan absences for term breaks where possible. A request for exemption from school can most easily be obtained by emailing me (principal@matarau.school.nz) stating reason for, and duration of, absence requested. You will receive a reply within a day or two.

Truancy officers

Some of our students will tell you from personal experience that truancy officers are on duty in main shopping areas in an effort to address the problems of non-attendance at local schools (and nation wide). If your child is out of school, it might be a good idea to keep your "Approval of Exemption" with you in case approached - has the added advantage of teaching children that we need a good reason "not to be at our place of work".

Consents

Recently we have had complications organising transport and attendance at certain events because parents have misread the consent notices. Although the school usually arranges transport for children to off site events, this is not always the case. On occasion consents advise that the parent is required to transport and supervise their own child, or that they will organise an alternative. Please read consent notices carefully and give us a call with any questions.

Matarau T-shirts

The Board is keen for children representing our school to wear Matarau T-shirts. Not only does this look smart, it also engenders pride and helps us to keep children safe. While we have a small number of T-shirts we lend out from the office, parents are encouraged to purchase T-shirts from the school office if they can afford them. We would also be keen to receive donations of T-shirts where these have been outgrown. Thank you.

Research findings on what really makes a difference to learning

Recent meta-research (research summarising a wide body of previous research in the field of education) is confirming that certain things make a bigger difference to learning outcomes than was previously believed. Each week we will share something that makes a bigger difference than was believed, and something that makes a lesser difference than previously believed. Here goes for this week ..

Bigger difference than previously believed (in fact the biggest difference of all) .. **Teacher Feedback**

Lesser difference than previously believed .. **Physical environment** (incl buildings and even class size)

You can read more of this research (by Professor John Hattie) on www.learningandteaching.info/teaching/what_works.htm

Final thought

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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Kamo JB5 who managed to take the Challenge Cup off Hora Hora for the first time in 3 years (the first team to do so)



Matarau Intermediate team finished 4th in their division after being put up a division only 3 weeks ago.